THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

VOL. 21, NO. 5 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

MARYLAND CHRISTMAS COUNTS AND COMPILERS, 2001-2002

Saturday, December 15

Allegany County — Gwen Brewer (Frostburg), 301-687-4306 (O).

Catoctin Mountain — Mike Welch (Frederick), 301-874-5828.

Denton — Steve Westre (Denton), 410-479-0338.

Elkton — Joel Citron (Wilmington, DE), 302-475-8773.

Oakland — Connie Skipper (Oakland), 301-387-5227.

Triadelphia Reservoir — Rick Sussman (Ashton), 301-774-1185.

Washington, DC — John Bjerke, compiler. New participants call the Audubon Naturalist Society (Chevy Chase), 301-652-9188.

Sunday, December 16

Jug Bay — Sam Droege (Hyattsville), 410-798-6759 (H) & 301-497-5840 (O).

Lower Kent County — Paul Toulson (Chestertown), 410-778-4123.

Port Tobacco — George Wilmot (Bryans Road), 301-375-8552.

St. Michaels — Frank Lawlor (Royal Oak), 410-745-6039 or Bill Novak (Easton), 410-822-2432.

Salisbury – Sam Dyke (Salisbury), 410-742-5497.

Seneca — Steve Pretl (DC), 202-726-5378.

Sunday, December 23

Point Lookout - Bob Boxwell (Dameron), 301-872-5998.

Wednesday, December 26

Southern Dorchester County (Blackwater) — Chan Robbins (Laurel), 301-725-1176.

Thursday, December 27

Crisfield – Allen Deward (Bishopville), 410-352-5590.

Friday, December 28

Ocean City — Jay Sheppard (Laurel), 301-725-5559.

Saturday, December 29

Baltimore Harbor — Peter Webb (Baltimore), 410-486-1217.

Rock Run – Jean Wheeler (Bel Air), 410-879-7424.

Washington County — David Weesner (Boonsboro), 301-432-7718.

Sunday, December 30

Annapolis/Gibson Island — Sue Ricciardi (Arnold), 410-647-9513 or Hal Wierenga & Lynn Davidson (Arnold), 410-647-7439.

Fort Belvoir—Carol Ghebelian, Maryland Coordinator (Indian Head), 301-753-6754.

Patuxent River — Doug & Lisa Lister (St. Mary's), 301-994-2582 (H) or 301-342-3670 (O) and Andy Brown (Calvert), 410-586-9490 (H) or 410-535-5327 (O).

Sugarloaf Mountain — Rob Gibbs (Gaithersburg), 301-253-6903.

Tuesday, January 1

Bowie — Fred Fallon (Bowie), 301-249-1518.

The Cost of Keeping Up

by Karen Morley

At this year's convention in Salisbury, I was excited to announce that MOS's assets had grown over the years to around $2.6 million. Our real property is worth $1.4 million, and our endowments total $1.2 million. However, although the assets of MOS may look huge, they are actually dwarfed by our needs. Back in the May/June 2001 ***Yellowthroat*** I called your attention to the fact that MOS's core operating income and expenses were not balancing, and that we would soon be running a deficit and may be facing a dues increase. Several years ago the President of the (well-endowed) college I attended wrote alumni, "To look poor and feel rich in America is fine and honorable. To look rich and feel poor is no fun at all...Why do we find ourselves in this unenviable position?" I now know how he felt and have been asking the same question. The answer is that the cost of operating MOS, the cost of keeping up, just like the cost of everything else in the world, has gone up....while our annual income has been static for over 10 years.

Here are the facts. I have rounded off numbers, but I think they are accurate. In general MOS has three kinds of assets. Real property (sanctuaries), endowments that fund specific MOS initiatives, and operating income. MOS Sanctuaries have recently been appraised at nearly $1.4 million dollars. These are not liquid assets and do not generate income. The appraisals only reflect the value of the real property....not the residences on two of the sanctuaries. These houses are in constant need of maintenance, and although we have done the best we could within the sanctuary budget and volunteer workdays, in all honesty, we have not put the required money into maintaining them as we should have done. Furthermore, there is continuing work that needs to be done on the properties themselves to improve habitat and facilitate use by our members. We have been using money from our General Fund to pay for many of these extraordinary, one-time expenses.

We have six endowed funds invested through Ferris Baker Watts and T. Rowe Price. These funds support MOS's fundamental missions. The corresponding committee uses the annual income from these investments to fund it's activities, for instance , this year the Education committee will have $2,800 to give chapters for various educational projects.

Investment		2001/2 Income
Atlas Fund	$38,500 + $500,000 (Schenkel)	$25,000
Education Fund	$50,500	$2,800
Research Fund	$168,500	$5,000
Sanctuary Fund	$99,500	$7,900
Scholarship Fund	$207,000	$5,500
General*	$119,000	$ 6,500

* Used to cover extraordinary expenses of the organization (for example, the real estate appraisals of the sanctuaries this year @$7,500. We are also facing an additional cost of $6,000/$8,000 for a survey of the Carey Run sanctuary where we have found 3 significant boundary discrepancies).

Finally, we come to our Operating Income and it's dark side, Operating Expenses. This is our annual cash flow. While we currently try to keep costs to a minimum, we are trying to search for more ways to save on our expenses. However, in order to operate effec-

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The President's Corner

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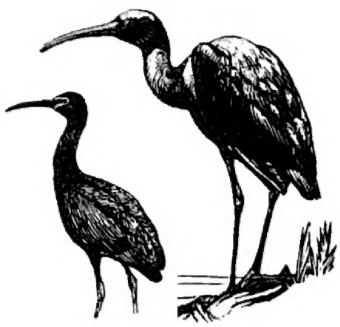
tively and responsibly, and to answer the needs of all our members, I do not think we are going to be able to pare these costs down in any significant way. And some are going to go up no matter what we do, for instance, insurance and printing costs. So here are the facts based on the latest data from the Treasurer:



2001-2002 Estimated Income

Dues	$17,500	
Interest on Savings	$ 200	
Investment Income	$ 3,450	(Investment $$ not allocated to an endowment)
Environmental Funds	$ 2,400	(Charitable donations)
Total	$ 23,500	

2001-2002 Estimated Expenses

Yellowthroat	$10,700	
MD Birdlife	$ 5,500	
Executive Secretary	$ 2,400	
Officers expenses	$ 400	
Database	$ 500	Maintaining membership/mailing lists
Printing/Duplication	$ 1,100	
Postage	$ 550	
Office Supplies	$ 500	
Publicity/Awards	$ 200	
Memberships	$ 150	In other environmental organizations
MOS Telephone	$ 725	
Insurance	$ 2,500	General liability/officers & directors liability
Storage Facility	$ 2,200	
Website	$ 150	
Misc.	$ 100	
Committees	$ 500	
Audit/Review	$ 3,000	Professional review required under MD law
Total	$31,175	

So, as you can see, we are going to run a deficit of nearly $8,000. We will be able to cover it this year by taking money from our savings and general operating funds, but we cannot continue to do so and meet our fiscal responsibilities. We cannot take away from our endowments as that would upset the balance we have struck between meeting today's needs and ensuring that the endowments will be there to support future generations of Maryland birders. That is why at the last MOS Board meeting, the Board of Directors proposed a dues increase of $10 per category (except for Youth, which would remain the same). During the coming month your chapter Presidents and directors will be asking for your thoughts on this so we can make an informed board proposal at the December state board meeting. That proposal will then be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting in June at the convention at WISP. If you have any questions or suggestions on how to help us with our situation, please feel free to call or e-mail me at *kdmorley@yahoo.com*.

2002 MOS Scholarship Program

by Jean Fry

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) is now accepting applications from Maryland teachers, park rangers, and youth leaders for scholarships to attend summer ecology and ornithology workshops which the National Audubon Society holds at its camps in Maine, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Each grant covers the cost of tuition, room, and board for an intensive six-day course of field study and instruction in ecology, ornithology, conservation, and natural history. The value of each scholarship is for $600 to $900. Travel expenses are the responsibility of the recipient. Please note: Brochures from the camps are not available until January, so specific dates for camps are not known until then. General descriptions of the content of workshops may be obtained at the address below or from chapter representatives listed below. Notification is made by early March.

MOS requires that its scholarship recipients work with young people. This includes teachers, camp counselors, park rangers, students, and others who intend to make nature education a part of their careers. Applicants need not be members of MOS, but they must be endorsed by a chapter or a member of MOS. Each candidate must submit the following:

1. A written statement in the form of a letter

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If you have a change of address or are experiencing difficulties with MOS mailings, contact the Mailing List Coordinator, William Guion, 8007 Martown Road, Laurel, MD 20723, (301) 490-0444.

All other questions regarding the Maryland Ornithological Society should be referred to the Executive Secretary, Larry Fry, 1202 Ridge Rd., Pylesville, MD 21132, (410) 452-8539 or at (800) 823-0050 (410-244-0032 in the Baltimore calling area). Larry's e-mail address is:
ffryjl@aol.com

For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the January/February issue are:
January-February Calendar Activities:
November 25

All Other Submissions:
December 1

Howard Members Honored by The Wildlife Society — On October 10, Bob and Jo Solem received the Conservation Award at the fall meeting of the Maryland/Delaware Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. TWS is an organization of professional wildlife managers and academic researchers. The Conservation Award is dedicated to honoring non-professionals who have contributed significantly to wildlife causes in the area. Bob and Jo have distinguished themselves by the breadth of their interest in conservation and wildlife issues and by the extent of their involvement in education and dissemination of information about these areas. They have made significant contributions in flowers, birds, odenata (dragonflies and damselflies), and conservation. Jo authored *Birding Howard County, Maryland* and Bob added many of the site guide maps. The book is an invaluable guide to the best birding areas in the county and what to expect in each month of the year, cross-indexed by species. Jo also contributed to the Breeding Bird Atlas of Maryland and D.C. and was a member of its Editorial Board; Bob has put together a Wild Flower Checklist for Howard County. Together they have produced a list of Howard County odenates complete with Bob's photographs which is used by the Howard County Dept. of Recreation and Parks. Bob is a long-time member of the Howard Soil Conservation Committee and chair of the Conservation Committee for the Howard MOS Chapter. They are both long-time board members of the Howard County Bird Club and Jo is the former chair of the MOS Planning Committee. Jo has been a mentor for countless new birders and both Bob and Jo have led many field trips focusing on flowers, birds, and odenates. They have advocated for natural resource management issues and served as consultants to the Howard County Rec. & Parks officers. Philip Norman, who is also the Deer Project Manager for the County Dept. adds, " and they have held the county to the line" on these issues. Bob and Jo will each receive a Conservation Award certificate and together they will be presented with two framed, signed, numbered prints by David Sibley of an Osprey and a Bald Eagle.

Montgomery Members Migrate to Cape May — Mark Garland began a new naturalist position with the Cape May Bird Observatory (CMBO), a branch of the New Jersey Audubon Society, an independent Audubon like Maryland's Audubon Naturalist Society) and will share the duties of coordinating CMBO's programming with Pat Sutton. Mark will be at the Northwood Center down by the Point. Mark and Paige bought "a nice old house" in West Cape May a few blocks away from The Nature Conservancy's Blair Preserve which everyone still calls the Cape May Meadows or just The Meadows. They are discovering that nice old houses require lots of attention. Their yard list in August already included Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Glossy Ibis, and Whimbrel. Butterflies on the yard list included Olive Hairstreak and Broad-winged Skipper. Paige is hoping to work part-time at several venues, including teaching some classes at the Nature Center of Cape May. Mark says this is a "dream-come-true, but it's still been hard to leave behind so many friends back home. The good news is that Cape May isn't really that far away, and we expect to see many of our friends and acquaintances as they come birding here."

Love Birds Spotted in Howard County — Dianne Depuy and Andy Aguilera married in a restored barn at the Cedar Ridge Community Church in Spencerville, MD on Saturday, June 16. Dianne and Andy monitor a Blue Bird trail at the church. The next day they flew to Anchorage, Alaska for five days aboard a small cruise ship through Prince William Sound followed by a train ride to Denali National Park for a couple of days. Diane reports that "We had gorgeous views of Mt. McKinley with no cloud cover on a few separate occasions. We went sea kayaking, whitewater river rafting, and horseback riding. We saw lots of wildlife, including Harbor Seals, Stellar's Sea Lions, Black-legged Kittiwake rookeries, moose, caribou, wolves, Gyrfalcon, Golden Eagles, etc.! It was a wonderful trip to a beautiful place.

Tri-County Retirement — After 38 years of faithfully calling members each month to remind them of chapter meetings, Helen Ferrand, a charter member of the Tri-County chapter, is retiring from the job. Members say her dedication has been unequaled. She began this job before the age of answering machines and readily admits they have made her job progressively easier over the year. The chapter is nominating her for special mention in the Hall of Unsung Heroes and Heroines.

Greg Miller Ill — Greg Miller, former Maryland superbirder, has acute lymphoblastic leukemia, and has moved to Northern Ohio to be near his family. Greg was the featured speaker at the MOS annual conference at Solomons Island. He spoke on "My Dream Year," a delightful account of his adventures in identifying 715 bird species in North America during one year, 1998. Many MOSers had followed Greg's saga on his web site and on the MDOsprey chat line all that year. He has another beautifully scripted website, http://members.self-serv.net/hawkowl which has possibly all the very best links for birders and people concerned about upcoming weather plus a very positive explanation of his illness and daily updates on his condition. As of September 28, Greg was enjoying a lovely day. The site would be an excellent resource for anyone who also has acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Greg has two email addresses and he would enjoy hearing from his MOS friends at hawkowl@yahoo.com and hawk-owl@yahoo.com/.

Cecil Member Celebrates the 50th — Ken Drier planned to celebrate his 50th birthday with his wife on a trip to Nepal and Tibet, but the assassination of the royal family in Nepal made them decide to change their plans. They went instead to the Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. They found themselves up over 12,000 feet where the air was thin and walking was difficult. They spent the day hiking over ground made soft and mushy by melting snow. They saw pockets of alpine flowers, a herd of huge antlered elk, Horned Lark, and American Pipit. Alas, the target bird was not to be found. At the end of the day, they simultaneously heard a soft hooting call. Then they saw the bird and one of her chicks. To celebrate they ordered some hot chocolate at the visitors center. Ken says "..at which time I promptly passed out from altitude sickness. This is how we came to find the White-tailed Ptarmigan."

Harford Reaches Out to Young and Adult Populations — The extremely active Education Committee of the Harford Chapter has sponsored 15 programs to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders since September 2000. Jean Fry chairs the committee and she is following the Chapter's stated objective: "...the diffusion of knowledge about birds and the promotion of their conservation..." Jean, her husband Larry, and Madeline Lovera have been using some materials purchased through an MOS Education Grant: an Identiflyer, a Bird Fandex, and additional bird slides and laminated posters. The Identiflyer is a hand-held, battery operated machine that broadcasts the sounds of birds. Specific cards may be inserted for categories such as field birds, shore birds, Eastern regional birds, etc. A Fandex displays pictures of birds in a fan-like formation. The committee has also visited an assisted living center, Almost Family, a Lions Club, and several women's clubs. A growing number of requests attests to the popularity of these presentations.

Night Life in the Big City — Last year Carol Schreter of the Baltimore Bird Club (BBC), observed a Chimney Swift invasion in the Hampden, a Baltimore neighborhood. The BBC scheduled two evenings to share this experience and plans to schedule more next season. The first nationwide Chimney Swift

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Chapter Chatter

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count, "A Swift Night Out," was announced for September 7-10 provided a opportunity for comparative measurements. Alice Nelson, a Hampden resident, and Carol Schreter tallied a count of 4,478 on September 8 and 4,205 on September 9. In the results from the 15 states reporting, only Reading, Pennsylvania counted more, a total of 5,000 Chimney Swifts on a single night into a single chimney. Too late for the nationwide statistics, but just right for Maryland's September 15 Fall Count, Alice Nelson counted 5,300! BBC members expect this remarkable nightly birding event to continue through October 15, with gradually decreasing numbers.

Howard Member Featured in Reader's Digest — The August 2001 issue of the Reader's Digest features a picture of Lisa Stevens, Senior Curator at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., with two of her many charges, the giant pandas: Mei Xiang and Tian Tian. The article, "Pandamonium's Keeper," describes how Lisa grew from a young girl who loved animals to a professional zoologist as well as traces the history of the panda program at the National Zoo and Lisa's hopes for its future.

Report from the Great Wild West — Don't forget MOS is going to the Great Wild West (of Maryland) next year on June 7-9, 2002: the Wisp Resort in Deep Creek/McHenry. Our host next year, the Allegany Chapter celebrated with its annual picnic on Aug. 26 at Carey Run, the MOS sanctuary. No hot tub was evident as had been previously promised by the former club president Chuck Hager! Chapter Chatter was unable to verify that Chuck's reneging on this promise assured the election of Ray Kiddy as the new president. Intrepid members managed to eat well before significant rain. J.B. Churchill saw a Baird's Sandpiper and a Buff Breasted Sandpiper at the Youghigheny Reservoir on September 1. Allegany, one of the early participants in the annual Maryland Fall count, found fewer species this September, some 60 plus, and failed to find some species seen normally every year. On Sunday, Sept. 23, the Brooks Bird Club of West Virginia demonstrated bird banding at Dolly Sods. Seeing those "confusing Fall Warblers" up close and personal is always a thrill and the Brooks Bird Club members are always happy to teach anyone interested all they know about these beautiful birds.

Tri-County Chapter In the News — Tri-county club president Sam Dyke initiated the "DELMARVA BIRDWATCHER" in the daily newspaper in Salisbury in May 1999. Each week a local bird is featured with a photo and write-up. Last year Sam passed the job on to John Juriga who continues to come up weekly with a new photo accompanied by identifying features and facts about the bird. He includes information about chapter meetings and activities in the article. The newspaper exposure has greatly aided the visibility of the club.

Carroll, Allegany, and Baltimore Chapter Members Survive Arizona — In a whirlwind tour, Carroll members, led by the indefatigable Bob Ringler, spent 11 days in Southeast Arizona this past June. Despite the forced marches up and down mountain canyons and across deserts filled with rattlesnakes, mutiny was averted by the excellent birding. The target species like Elegant Trogon, Spotted Owl and Elf Owl were well seen. Members participating were Dave and Maureen Harvey, Roxann Yeager, Laura Tarbell, Gail Frantz, and George and Barbara Gaffney. Mark and Amy Hoffman did their own tour in early July, a 6-day stint. Amy barely survived Mark's lessons in desert survival, but was rewarded with 61 life birds. Mark finally added Spotted Owl and Montezuma Quail. The only disappointment of the trips was that all of the sewage ponds were closed for repair. As Mark is fond of saying, "Nothing like the smell of fresh sewage in the morning!"

Cecil Scholarship Winner Appreciates Experience — Diane McIntosh, park ranger and recipient of an MOS Audubon camp scholarship to Hog Island, Maine, wrote an enthusiastic article on her trip for the chapter newsletter, *Cecil Birdlife*. She reports that she learned a great deal and had "so much fun (in spite of sunburn poisoning on the first day)....At the park, I now teach a session on bird song and call. This teaches the kids how birds are able to sing and vocalize. My bird walks have greatly improved...This trip inspired me so much that I am going to take a home study course on bird biology...Again, thank you so much for this opportunity!!"

MD Yellowthroat Back Issues Needed

by Norm Saunders

Over all the years that John and Helen Ford took care of mailing the ***MD Yellowthroat***, they faithfully maintained two sets of the newsletter. This past summer, at the Salisbury Conference, they passed them along to me for continued safekeeping and maintenance. Of the 104 issues of the Yellowthroat that have been published since its inception in 1980, I have all but two issues. I would like to get two clean copies of those from anyone who would like to donate them to the MOS archival collection. The ones we need are:

Volume 4, Number 5 -- Nov/Dec 1984
Volume 6, Number 3 -- May/Jun 1986

If you have one or both of these and would like to know that they will become a part of the MOS archives, please get in touch with me in any of the following ways:

Call me at 301-989-9035 (Evenings up till about 8:30) or at 202-691-5700 (days)
E-mail me at marshhawk@att.net
Snail-mail me at 1261 Cavendish Drive, Colesville, MD 20905

Thanks!

The Conservation Connection

Conservation News From All Over

by Maureen F. Harvey

Thanks Received — Anneke Davis, Baltimore Chapter member and editor of Maryland Conservation Council's Conservation Report, thanks MOS for sponsorship of one weekly issue during the 2002 MD Legislative Session. She says, of course, the money is helpful and welcome, but also she is pleased that MOS is becoming more politically active.

Is This Your Chapter's Conservation Committee Representative? — The Conservation Committee occasionally sends notices to chapters regarding conservation issues of interest to birders. We need to know if last year's representatives will continue to serve. Please notify me via any means (in person, email, note, phone call) if your chapter's representative has changed. Here is the list from last year:

Allegany	Charles Hager (drhager@erols.com)
Anne Arundel	Steve Carr & Eileen McClellan (stevecarr@toad.net)
Baltimore	Peter Lev (plev@home.com)
Caroline	Bill Scudder (no email)
Carroll	Maureen Harvey (maureen.harvey@jhuapl.edu) (dahtangara@erols.com)
Cecil	Doug Senn (ahriman55@yahoo.com)
Frederick	Bob Balestri (balestri@erols.com)
Harford	Debbie Bowers (Bowerspub@aol.com)
Howard	Bob Solem (odenata@msn.com)
Kent	Pat Wilson (patwil@friend.ly.net)
Montgomery	Gail Mackiernan (gail@mdsg.umd.edu)
Patuxent	Tom Loomis (escs@erols.com)
Talbot	Les Roslund (lroslund@bluecrab.org)
Tri-County	Ilia Fehrer (Ilia-JoeFehrer@webtv.net)
Washington	Annette Jeffers (jeffers@nfis.com)

CARA Needs Your Voice — The hoped-for **Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA)** is still just a bill. It will provide states with dependable, permanent funding for wildlife conservation, education, and recreation. The push at the moment is to gain sponsors in the House of Representatives to ensure smooth passage before it will be brought up for a vote. There are 239 sponsors so far including 74 Republicans. CARA supporters want 290 sponsors with 100 of them Republicans. As part of our activities associated with the MD Teaming with Wildlife Coalition, the MOS signed a letter to be sent to all members of the House encouraging their sponsorship and passage of CARA this year.

All but two of MD's Congressional Representatives have signed on. Steny Hoyer will never sign on because he is on the House Appropriations Committee and doesn't like the concept of guaranteed funding. The other holdout is Roscoe Bartlett, a Republican representing Carroll and Frederick Counties. MD TWW Coalition members plan to visit him in October during a big CARA summit sponsored by National Wildlife Federation and the International Assn. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

In the meantime, phone calls and letters from individual members of any chapter and the Carroll Co. and Frederick Co. Chapter Representatives would be very helpful. Callers may simply say, **"Hi, I'm (name) from (town). I'm (a member of or represent the) (your chapter) Bird Club. I would like Representative Bartlett to sign on as a co-sponsor to the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, H.R. 701. I treasure our nation's wildlife and want to see better conservation programs to keep them off endangered species lists. Thank you." A phone call takes only a few minutes. Please call (202) 225-2721 or write to The Honorable Roscoe Bartlett, 2412 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515.**

On the Senate side, a couple of good CARA bills have been introduced. Both of Maryland's Senators sponsored CARA Senate bills last year and expressed continuing support of the CARA concept when I wrote to them this spring. Now we really need them to show their support by action. Every member and chapter, please write or call Senators Sarbanes and Mikulski. Your message can be quite simple, for example: **"I'm (name) from (town). I'm (a member of or represent the) (your chapter) Bird Club. Please sponsor and vote for CARA, to provide permanent funding for wildlife. I am (We are) not appeased by the recent short-term appropriations for wildlife; however, the funds are appreciated because they help carry worthwhile state wildlife conservation projects forward until CARA becomes a reality. I (We) want CARA!" Contact information: The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski, Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 709, Wash., DC 20510, phone 202-224-4654 and The Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes, Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 309, Wash., DC 20510, phone 202-224-4524.**

UD Study on Insects, Non-Native Plants, and Birdlife — Nancy Magnusson (Howard Co. Chapter) drew my attention to an article she posted on MDOsprey. It gives a new twist to the argument for removal of non-native species from our parks and wild areas as well as planting native trees and shrubs in home and commercial landscaping. Dr. Doug Tallamy, University of Delaware professor of entomology and applied ecology found that insects largely ignore the leaves of non-native plants, opting instead to eat the foliage of native species. Furthermore, the insects' food supply is disappearing rapidly because non-native plants are expanding and increasingly choking our native growth. The article states "Why should the disappearance of insects concern people who spend millions every year getting rid of them in the garden? Because plants are at the base of the food chain, and insects feed on plants. If insects disappear, so do the creatures that depend on them. In fact, more than 90 percent of insects are restricted in their diets, because they do not have the enzymes required to digest the leaves of non-native plants..."

Birders are aware that native bird populations are in decline. This study indicates that loss of insects and insect food is an important but overlooked element in the loss of habitat usually cited as the primary factor in avian decline. The author states "...when raising their young in the spring, birds depend upon a supply of insects and larvae to feed the hatchlings. If the insects are eliminated, so are future generations of birds...When people see green open spaces, they think nature has taken over...A green field in which the native plants have been choked out by invasive non-native ones is no more productive than a parking lot when it comes to providing food for insects, birds and other animals...People plant (non-native) butterfly bushes in the mistaken idea that they are helping nature. The bush does attract butterflies for its flower nectar, but they will not lay their eggs on these leaves, because the foliage offers no nutrition to the hatching larvae. Planting a native species, such as viburnum, milkweed, Joe Pye weed or purple coneflower for every butterfly bush - now that would really help nature."

Potential Findings of the Upcoming Breeding Bird Atlas

by Rick Blom

Now that there are plans to redo the Maryland / DC Breeding Bird Atlas starting in the spring of 2002 there are undoubtedly a lot of MOS members saying to themselves: "Wait a minute. We just finished one. I just got the book. It's too soon."

Memory is a fragile vessel. It is approaching the twentieth anniversary of the initiation of field work from the last Atlas. It may not seem that long because of the delay in getting the first one in print, but it has been two decades.

Two decades may seem like a lot to most of us (in my case it stretches from the birth of my daughter at the beginning of the project to now, when she is in college) but it isn't much in evolutionary terms. Could there really have been enough change in so short a period of time that it justifies another massive commitment by the MOS and its members? Sure, a lot of things will not have changed: Starlings and Rock Doves and American Robins and Mourning Doves will still be in nearly every block. Black-throated Blue and Magnolia Warblers will still be confined to the mountains of Garrett County. Whatever Piping Plovers are left will still be confined to the beaches of Worcester County.

There will be changes though, important ones. Some birds are increasing and spreading, some are headed in the other direction. What follows is a list of the birds for which there will probably be significant changes from the first atlas to the next. It is a bit quirky because it is mine, and the only thing that is absolutely certain is that there will be surprises. By the time you have finished the list you should be impatient to get to the field work and you will have probably thought of at least one bird that I missed.

Mute Swan: The results of the first atlas show it largely confined to the Chesapeake Bay edges of the central Eastern Shore. It has since spread north and south, across the Bay, and up the Potomac River. The emerging controversy over how to deal with Mute Swans means that a complete understanding of the current range is critical.

Canada Goose: A lot of people are beginning to think of them as starlings with webbed feet. They were widespread by the end of the atlas, but there were a lot of gaps, especially in Baltimore and Carroll Counties. Now they are a candidate to appear in virtually every block.

Black Duck: Possible declines may be reflected in a more restricted range and in occurrence in fewer blocks. It is important to clarify the status away from the Bay by being cautious of hybrids and identification problems.

Black Vulture: Has been increasing and spreading for more than a century. May now be more widespread in Allegany County and there are hints that it may have gained a foothold in Garrett.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Fast disappearing as a breeding bird in Maryland. It may be virtually extirpated in many areas and will be found in far fewer blocks in its traditional stronghold in the Piedmont and Ridge and Valley sections.

Wild Turkey: Re-introduction efforts mean it should be found in every county this time, a dramatic change from twenty years ago.

Northern Bobwhite: Serious long-term declines continue and it may now be absent everywhere except the Coastal Plain.

Common Nighthawk: Continent-wide declines continue and it is probable that they will be found in fewer blocks. It has been decades since a nest on the ground was found and any occurrence away from roof-tops will be notable.

Whip-poor-will/Chuck-will's-widow: Atlas results showed that Chucks were replacing Whips on the lower Eastern Shore and along the edges of the Bay. The pattern appears to be continuing and range extension by Chucks and range contraction by Whips is anticipated.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Anecdotal evidence suggests that some traditional sites may no longer be occupied. Expect a slightly contracted range and fewer sites. It is possible that the declines will be bigger than we expect.

Alder Flycatcher: Some observers feel it is getting harder to find in Garrett County, perhaps being replaced by Willow Flycatcher.

Willow Flycatcher: The atlas found the first evidence of spread onto the Coastal Plain. The question is whether the pattern has continued and if the species is still expanding.

Least Flycatcher: Long-term declines continue and it will undoubtedly be more restricted and may be quite hard to find in its traditional range in Garrett County.

Tree Swallow: The atlas recorded the initial stages of the spread from Tidewater areas across the state but field work in Baltimore and Carroll Counties was done before the birds moved in. Because of bluebird boxes the species is now a candidate to occur in almost every block.

Bank Swallow: Colonies are ephemeral. The atlas recorded a shift from traditional sites along the Bay to inland locations at quarries. There is no telling where they will be next time.

Red-breasted Nuthatch/Golden-crowned Kinglet: Both species have been spreading south for 50 years and by the end of the atlas had reached not only Garrett, but extreme northern Carroll County, using spruce plantations. Has the spread continued? Are the numbers in Garrett growing?

Brown-headed Nuthatch: Declining and the range is contracting. They are already known to be absent from many areas of the lower Eastern Shore where they previously bred.

Brown Creeper: The atlas revealed that though they were scarce they could occur anywhere in the state. Easily overlooked, they may be more common than thought, part of what seems to be a range-wide expansion southward.

Carolina Wren: Post-atlas there was a major die-off, but they may have recaptured some of the ground in the western part of the state.

Northern Mockingbird: Has it finally gotten a foothold in Garrett , the last county where it was accidental as a breeding bird?

Brown Thrasher: Long-term declines have been great and for the first time it may be that it will not be a candidate to be found in virtually every block. The percentage of blocks it is recorded in will be a key indicator for the species.

Cedar Waxwing: We were unprepared at the beginning of the atlas to get a large number of reports from the Coastal Plain but by the second year it was obvious the species had spread into the region in numbers. If the expansion has continued, they are now a candidate to be found in nearly every block.

Blue-winged/Golden-winged Warblers: Golden-wingeds have been in a range-wide decline for decades, being replaced by Blue-wingeds. Garrett is the Maryland stronghold for Golden-wingeds, but by the end of the atlas, Blue-wingeds were making inroads and mixed pairs and hybrids were being found. Have Blue-wingeds continued to gain ground and are Golden-wingeds on their way out as Maryland breeders?

Yellow-throated Warbler: An expanding species at the time of the atlas, pushing west and north along the rivers into the Piedmont and Ridge and Valley. They have apparently made it at least to the Pennsylvania border in all counties except Garrett and they may have established themselves there along the Potomac. They are also candidates to invade the northwest corner of Garrett from the west.

Cerulean Warbler: The declines have been so severe that they are now candidates for federal listing. Anecdotal evidence suggests that they will be much harder to find this time and will occur in notably fewer blocks.

(continued at top of next page)

Atlas Potential

(continued from previous page)

Yellow-breasted Chat: Another declining species that will probably be found in notably fewer blocks as the second-growth thicket habitat it prefers continues to disappear. Other species that share the habitat and all also declining, including **Prairie Warbler, Eastern Towhee**, and **Field Sparrow**, may also be harder to find in many blocks.

Blue Grosbeak: An expanding species. Thirty years ago reports made the rare bird alert. Expansion into Allegany and perhaps Garrett may have already occurred and east of there they are candidates in nearly every block.

Vesper Sparrow/Grasshopper Sparrow: The two most important of a group, the grassland birds, that is the fastest declining on the continent. The results of the next atlas will undoubtedly show significantly compacted ranges and occurrence in many fewer blocks. They may already be extirpated from parts of the state where they have bred in the past. Two other grassland species, **Eastern Meadowlark** and **Red-winged Blackbird**, are also declining and while they were more widespread to start with, the change may show up this time.

Swamp Sparrow: The Coastal Plain race, *nigrescens*, may be in real trouble and studies indicate that it may be gone from many of the Bay marshes were it was found before. The difference this time may be dramatic.

Purple Finch: A Garrett County breeder that may be slowly slipping away, being replaced by House Finches.

House Finch: Going up and up and up. By the end of the atlas they had spread over most of the state but there were still gaps, especially on the Eastern Shore and in Western Maryland. Now might be found in virtually every block and may be one of the commonest breeding birds.

House Sparrow: Surprisingly, it seems to be declining as it is replaced in many suburban and urban areas by House Finches. May now be largely confined in rural areas to barns with large animals.

There are some species so rare, or that have declined so much, that they may be represented by only a few pairs. Any record of the following birds would be extremely significant: **Wilson's Plover, Upland Sandpiper, Laughing Gull, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared owl, Bewick's Wren, Sedge Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Loggerhead Shrike, Swainson's Warbler, Nashville Warbler**, and **Henslow's Sparrow**.

Some species are fairly recent additions to the state breeding list or have returned after a long absence. A new atlas will tell us if they have settled in and are expanding or increasing or if they tested the water and reversed field. The list includes: **Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Ruddy Duck, Northern Goshawk, Saw-whet Owl, Yellow-rumped Warbler**, and **Pine Siskin**.

Marsh Birds: There is compelling evidence of long-term declines in almost all species, but especially hard hit have been fresh marsh birds such as **King Rail, Common Moorhen**, and **Least Bittern**. Atlas coverage was adequate only because of specially funded surveys. Even so, a concentrated post-atlas survey showed that we missed many birds. Normal atlas work will not provide useful data no matter how dedicated the participants.

Parklands: Two species associated with more open woods and parklands have been declining for many years: **Eastern Kingbird** and **Baltimore Oriole**. By the end of the atlas, field workers were working hard to add them to many blocks, although it could usually be done with diligence. The differences this time may not be dramatic but both species will probably be found in fewer blocks, the tip of a slowly disappearing iceberg.

The new stuff!! This is the fun part, predicting (guessing) which will be the new species added to the state's breeding list this time around. My own list of candidates is long because I have learned that successful predicting means covering almost every possibility. Still, it is by no means complete and there is a perfectly reasonable chance that at least half the new breeders won't be on here. The following are legitimate (mostly) contenders, with my five top choices underlined: **Caspian Tern, Red Crossbill, Mississippi Kite, White Ibis, Olive-sided Flycatcher, American Wigeon, Yellow Rail, Common Merganser, Common Snipe, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Clay-colored Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, White-throated Sparrow**, and my personal favorite quirky choice, **Lesser Black-backed Gull** (someone has to get out to the gull colony at Sparrow's Point)!

I think the evidence is overwhelming that not only is it time to start a new atlas, but that we will hardly have time in the five years of field work to answer all the questions that have emerged since the first one. And that doesn't even take into account the surprises that will emerge from every day's worth of field work.

Scholarship Notes

(continued from page 2, column 3)

showing how the Audubon experience will be used to develop in young people an appreciation of our wild heritage and a sense of responsibility for the care and quality of our natural resources and environment.

2. Two letters of recommendation from individuals who know of the candidate's interests, activities, abilities, and potential are requested. One of these letters should be from either a member of MOS or a chapter of MOS. It is extremely helpful if the letters of recommendation cite specific activities, accomplishments, or projects in which the applicant was involved in addition to personal qualities.
3. A current resume.
4. Applicants must be eighteen or older.

The following people are helping the Scholarship Committee to recruit candidates in their respective chapters: Alleghany—Dr. Gwenda Brewer; Anne Arundel—Al Haury; Baltimore—Bea Nicholls; Caroline—Debby Bennett; Cecil—Richard Donham; Frederick—Linda Keller; Harford—Dr. Dennis Kirkwood; Howard—Eileen Clegg; Jug Bay area—Dale Johnson. Kent—Pat Wilson; Montgomery—Barbara Hollomn; Talbot—Liz Lawlor; Tri-County—Patsy Decker; Washington—Ann Mitchell. These individuals are able to answer questions about the program and assist in the application process.

Applications for the 2002 workshops are due by January 31, 2002. Please submit applications and direct questions to Jean Fry, Chairperson of the MOS Scholarship Committee, 1202 Ridge Road, Pylesville, MD 21132. Phone: 410-452-8539 E-mail: ffryjl@aol.com. All chapter presidents and representatives are urged to see that this information is disseminated as widely as possible to all educators and youth leaders in the state. We need a broad base of applicants to ensure wide participation and fairness in the selection process.

Minutes of the MOS Board Meeting
9 June 2001

President: Karen Morley
Vice President: Paul Zucker
Treasurer: Shiras Guion
Secretary: Janet Shields
Executive Secretary: Larry Fry

Awards: John Malcolm
Atlas: Jane Coskren
Budget: Paul Zucker
Gifts: Sally Ann Waldschmidt
Long-Range Planning: Marcia Watson-Whitmyre
Sanctuary: Dotty Mumford
Sanctuary Project: Bob Rineer
Sales: Donald Culbertson
Scholarship: Jean Fry

Allegany: not represented
Ann Arundel: Linda Baker, Dotty Mumford, Lawrence Zoller
Baltimore: Donald Culbertson, Ruth Culbertson, Helene Gardel, Bob Rineer
Caroline: not represented
Carroll: not represented
Cecil: Leslie Fisher, Van Vogel, Marcia Watson-Whitmyre
Frederick: Doug Parker, Nancy Parker
Harford: Thomas Congersky, Jean Fry, Joe Vangrin
Howard: Jane Coskren, Darius Ecker, Paula Ecker, Don Waugh, Martha Waugh
Kent: Gail Regester, Pat Wilson
Montgomery: Helen Gray, John Malcolm, Janet Millenson, Rick Sussman Sally Ann Waldschmidt,
Patuxent: Frederick Fallon
Talbot: Frank Lawlor, Bill Novak
Tri-County: not represented
Washington: Judy Lilga, Ann Mitchell

Opening & Welcome: President Karen Morley called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. She thanked Pat Wilson and the Kent County Chapter for acting as hosts today. The Board really appreciates their efforts and it's always fun to come to Kent County.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Jean Fry, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, had a clarification to make. At the June Board Meeting Jean had asked the Board for $130 to make up the difference needed to send Darryl Calloway to a Minnesota workshop. The Board approved this. Upon checking, Jean discovered the $575 workshop charge was for graduate credit. Darryl did not need the graduate credit and therefore the charge was only $255. This lower amount meant the $130 was not needed.

Paul Zucker made the following suggestion under the Publication Committee report: MOS would submit a flat file database "of addresses" to the printer each time the *Yellowthroat* is printed. Michael Bowen, Montgomery County, sent several changes of grammatical errors. With no further discussion, the minutes of the March Board Meeting were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Shiras Guion commenting on the Financial Report for last year stated that the good news is we had more income than expenses. The bad news is it probably will not be that way next year. Investment income was very high this year because of interest from the Schenkel bequest. Next year that money, roughly $20,000, is going to the Atlas. So, we will not have that money for operating expenses.

Of note:

World Series of Birding: WSB income was $2,149 and the expenses $1,764, leaving a net a $385. It's not making a lot of money. Paul Zucker noted it didn't cost us anything. Karen Morley felt that the WSB is not a moneymaking situation but it's a publicity and outreach situation with an opportunity to support an important activity.

Publications: Last year Shiras stated publications did not cost as much as we budgeted because we did not publish any *Birdlife*. That is going to change because there is one in the works this year and publication costs are high. In addition, the cost to print and mail the *Yellowthroat* for a year is $10,700.

Committee Expenses: There is not too much expense under committee expenses probably because a lot of people absorb the minor mailing costs, etc.

Special Funds: Under special funds, the income for the atlas was a royalty check for selling some of the previous atlases. Two education grants were given, one to Cecil County and one to Caroline.

General Expenses: Under general the $5,000 was the donation to Horsehead, which was approved at the last board meeting.

We are required under Maryland law to have a professional audit this year. Shiras was sent a whole list of things required by the auditors and took a stack of reports to them on May 23. They have asked for more information. Shiras, asked if she felt we have benefited from the audit, replied she feels we have benefited from it in several ways. One of the things she has done is asked them to help her organize the books in a better way. She is not an accountant by profession and has found this helpful. And, in the end, we will know that our books are correct.

President's Remarks: Under our by-laws, every chapter has one director but as they get one hundred members they receive an additional director. Cecil County has now made it over one hundred members so they have a new director. Karen also recognized Fred Fallon who is the new President of the Patuxent Chapter. Leslie Fisher introduced the new Chairman of the Education Committee, Van Vogel, who is a Cecil Chapter member. Van was the person who put the package for the new education grant together for Cecil County. We also received a thank you from the Wildfowl Trust (Horsehead) for the $5,000 we donated. They were very grateful for the donation and hope to find more ways we can work together in the future.

Announcement from Larry Fry: The Atlas Committee and Karen wish to know about chapter meeting dates. Larry is going to start to compile a list of all program meetings for the chapters. This way Jane Coskren can arrange to come and talk about the atlas project which starts next year. Karen also would like to attend a meeting of each chapter if possible.

Action Items: Paul Zucker explained we only had one item from the last meeting. Bob Rineer was going to look into the issue of the appraisal of the sanctuaries. Bob stated that two of the appraisals have been done and the rest are due within the next two weeks. Paul informed us that most of the previous action items have been satisfied. There were some that were open items. The committees getting in their long-range plans is an example of these open items..

Atlas Committee: Jane Coskren attended the Migratory Bird Day at the Washington National Zoo and it went very well. She met the D.C. Mayor and he wanted a copy of the atlas. Patuxent Wildlife Research will cooperate with us using our Atlas data. Jane needed coordinators for Kent, Dorchester, Prince George, Somerset, Wicomico, and Talbot Counties and was able to fill all of these positions. She does still need a co-coordinator for Prince George. Karen Morley said Wayne Bell has agreed to be coordinator for Kent. There will be a coordinators' meeting on September 22. Any suggestions for getting donations of money for the project should go to Janet Millenson, Fund Raising Coordinator for the Atlas.

Budget Committee: Paul Zucker noted we had put $5,000 in our budget for the appraisals of the sanctuaries. This amount was only a guess. When Bob Rineer spoke with the appraiser, the cost turned out to be somewhat more. Bob informed us it was $8,400. He was able to negotiate a 10% reduction of the $8,400. The Executive Committee was polled and approved the extra cost. It turned out there was only one person certified to do appraisals in all the counties.

Conference Committee: Mike Callahan was unable to attend but gave Karen Morley his report for the meeting. Currently there were 170 people registered. There will be three research papers. Don and Lillian Stokes will hold a book signing after their talk. The local Conference Committee members decided the benefactors of the Silent Auction and Raffle will be the Lower Shore Land Trust and the Centreville Middle School World Series of Birding Team. These funds will be split 50/50 between the two organizations. Some of the students from the birding team will be at the conference to help sell raffle tickets. Mike asked if the Board would approve the Conference Committee either giving the students a complimentary Saturday dinner for their help or only charge them half price. The cost of the dinner is $19 and there will be up to six members of the team. They are going to be leading a field to Pemberton Park on Saturday morning and will also have a display. Bob Rineer made a motion that the Centreville Middle School World Series of Birding Team is given up to six free nonresident packages for the convention. This would include registration and all meals. This was seconded and approved.

The 2002 Conference is going to be June 7 – 9, 2002, at The Wisp, Deep Creek in Western Maryland. The first Planning Committee meeting was held on May 18, 2001, with members of the Allegany Chapter and At-Large members from Garrett County. One of the nice things about having it in June is we'll be able to use the data from the field trips for the Atlas.

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June Board Meeting Minutes

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Conservation Committee: Maureen Harvey was not able to attend. Karen Morley had an update. DNR sent out proposals for how we would use the money that came into each state from the mini CARA. There were a large number of proposals and Gail Mackiernan went through them and sent them back to DNR with a list of how we would like to see the money spent. Karen Morley, Dale Johnson and some other members of MOS went to the Mute Swan Symposium, which was held jointly with Patuxent and Horsehead at the Chesapeake College. People from several states reported on what they were doing with Mute Swans. Maryland DNR gave a report. People on the Task Force reported. It struck Karen that taking part in these kinds of conferences is the kind of thing MOS needs to be more involved with on a technical scientific level. Karen talked to Ed Delaney, head of Horsehead, about possibly of co-sponsoring a similar symposium that could be held at Horsehead but be on a topic of interest to our members as well as well as his.

Long-Range Planning Committee: Marcia Watson-Whitmyre reported she has received plans from several committees. Budgets, Gifts, Publications, and Scholarship have submitted their plans. Step 1 is to receive the plans. Even a one or two pager that puts down some goals and ideas about where the committee wants to go would suffice. It is impossible to go on to Step 2 until Step 1 is finished. Karen Morley feels this is really critical for all of MOS. It's not just the individual committees but it is all of MOS. The Board does have to make some allocations on the Schenkel bequest and the income in the budget. Karen states we can not do things like that until we know the direction of MOS and we do not know the direction until we know the function of these committees. The committees report back to us and we all get a chance to have input about how our committees work and how they fit our long-term mission.

Publications Committee: Norm Saunders could not be here. Karen Morley stated that there is a March 1999 *Birdlife* in the works and it's at the printers. The timeliness of our own publications is a problem. We need to think about this in our long-term goals for Publications. *Birdlife* is a quarterly journal. Perhaps we should change people's expectations. If you pay dues and expect a quarterly journal, you ought to get one. Perhaps we need to think about how often we're going to be putting this out. Karen feels it might turn out to be an annual journal. That might be all we need and have the resources to publish. As Shiras has mentioned, publication costs are certainly high enough that this should be a consideration.

As for the *Yellowthroat*, this last time we had Tri-State Printing handle addressing them so that Helen Ford would not have to do it. It had become quite a burden for Helen. The additional cost was $150 per issue. So Norm's suggestion is that we continue it one more time and get a good idea of the costs over a couple of issues before making a final decision whether we go this way. Or, decide whether we're going to ask a volunteer from another chapter to get the mailing out; it takes a lot of time. Tri-State did get it out about one week earlier than usual. The cost would be an additional $750 per year for 5 *Yellowthroats*. We have 1,600 to 1,800 Yellowthroats going out each time. The figure varies throughout the year.

Sanctuary Committee: Dotty Mumford reported that in April there were two successful workdays at Irish Grove. The Strategic Planning Committee will be meeting in June. Workdays are scheduled for October 27, 2001, and April 6, 2002, at Irish Grove. The Carey Run workday is scheduled for April 27, 2002.

Publicity Committee: Karen Morley noted we received a nice thank you note from the Smithsonian for participating in the Migratory Bird Day at the Washington National Zoo. A thank you was given to Jane Coskren for her participation and also for her persistence in getting our display used at the Zoo out of storage.

We have another opportunity. Fran Saunders received some information on the 2001 Mid-Atlantic Governors' Conference on Greenways, Blueways and Green Infrastructures. It will be held in September at the Gateway Marriott at Crystal City. Registration for individuals is $150. It is designed to enhance the knowledge of planning, developing and maintaining land and water trails and other greenways focusing on conservation, landscaping etc. Karen thinks this would tie in very well with some of the things Dotty Mumford is looking at with the sanctuaries. Virginia Trails Assoc. is apparently the main force behind this and Maryland DNR is also involved. Sponsors, who receive various kinds of recognition, can contribute from $250 to $10,000. Or, we can register a person to attend the conference for $150. We can have an exhibit or booth there. They were asking $525 for a booth but it will be free for nonprofit organizations. It was felt we could learn a lot about some of the emerging conservation issues from the groups and individuals attending conferences like this. The Conservation Committee should be involved and the Education Committee. We should have at least two people go to this kind of conference and spend our money to send them because this is where MOS belongs. We may learn something but we may also be able to educate some of the people who are making environmental decisions. Bob Rineer felt that since we are interested in sending a couple of people to the conference but don't have all the information necessary to make a decision, he moved the Executive Board should have the capability of deciding on a couple of people to attend the conference if it seems appropriate after obtaining more information. It was moved and seconded that we sponsor two attendees to the conference and possibly have a display if it seems appropriate. Karen Morley asked for any further discussion. Sally Ann Waldschmidt amended the motion from two to three people attend. Her reasoning is the conference sessions usually run concurrently. In order to get the biggest bang for the buck we need to have as many session covered as possible. The motion was amended to have two to three attend the conference. This was seconded and passed. Karen Morley stated the motion now before us is whether we will sponsor two to three people to attend the Mid-Atlantic Governors' Conference on Greenways, Blueways and Green Infrastructures if it seems appropriate after obtaining more information. An adjunct to that motion by Bob Rineer said that the Executive Committee would make the choice of who appeared to be the appropriate people to attend. This was seconded and approved.

The last thing Fran Saunders wanted Karen to call to the Board's attention is she still needs fax and email address for local newspapers so we can send out press releases. Individual chapters, if you haven't given her address for your local papers, she would like to hear from you.

World Series of Birding: Karen gave us an update. Hal Wierenga, Lynn Davidson, Mark Hoffman and Marshall Iliff tallied 168 species putting them in a tie for second place in their category at the Cape May contest. Also, Maryland did very well from the financial point of view. It pleased Norm Saunders to announce that the pledges and donations better last year's total by about $500 if everybody sends in their money. We are not necessarily doing World Series of Birding to make money. This is a publicity outreach effort. The Centreville Middle School sent two teams of birders composed of sixteen young people. In their age category they came in first and second. Two of the young boys who are on the team were at the Mute Swan Symposium and very scientifically knowledgeable. These are really wonderful kids from Queen Anne's County. Karen found they were so active and so interested that she thinks they're going to be a big addition to our MOS Conference. Karen is hoping to convince chapters in their general area to continue to follow up as much as possible with these kids. The middle school teacher doing this cannot continue forever. We need to do something to keep these students interested in birding.

Presentation by Awards Committee: Karen introduced John Malcolm, past president of MOS and Chairman of the Awards Committee. He talked to us about his latest project. A number of years ago John came up with a generic certificate to be handed out as an award. We have tons of these and all you have to do is put in a name, the date and the president signs it. Now we all have printers at home with our computers and have fancy fonts. Then we got color printers. Three years ago, John got a call from one of the chapters requesting a special certificate for a non-MOS member. He worked up something for them using a fancy font and put it on blue parchment. So we evolved into personalizing our forms to fit the occasion. Last spring Norm Saunders wanted to give, and rightly so, a lot of awards. John went to buy colored parchment and couldn't find any because it was May and all the schools were graduating and the paper was gone. So, he went out and ordered parchment paper with the MOS logo watermarked and he ordered MOS presentation folders and an embosser. Now we can make certificates with the watermark on the parchment and an MOS presentation folder for committee chairman, the chapters or whomever. John can now customize these items for us. The cost of the certificates is $1.70 plus postage. John will be glad to do them for you. Or if you wish, John can give you the raw materials for $1.70 plus postage and you can fill them in yourself. He also has a floppy disc with the fonts, the awards format and a couple of other formats available. John will do these things for the chapters for $1.70 a set; just notify him in plenty of time. Or you can do your own by ordering the materials from John. He may be contacted at 10205 Kindly Court, Montgomery Village, MD 20886, 301-977-5788, smudgekn@erols.com. .

OLD BUSINESS

Review of Administrative Pilot Procedure: Karen Morley explained in September we initiated a pilot on the MOS administrative process for how we handle new budget requests, etc. We really did not have any discussion about it then but said we would try it for six months. It has been about six months. She wanted to know if anything has come up that has been a problem for the chapters in submitting a request and how we have handled these requests.

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MOS 2001 MD/DC LOCALITY LIST REPORTING FORM

Report List Totals as of 12/31/2001

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Name:			
Address:			
City:		County:	
State:	Zip:	Email:	
Phones: (day): ( )		(evening): ( )	

II. STATE/COUNTY LIFE AND 2001 LISTS

Locality List	Max/50%	Life	2001	Locality List	Max/50%	Life	2001
Maryland State	418/209			District of Columbia	312/156		
MD Yard List*	-			DC Yard List*	-		
Allegany County	282/141			Howard County	291/146		
Anne Arundel County	331/166			Kent County	300/150		
Baltimore City/County	333/167			Montgomery County	309/155		
Calvert County	304/152			Prince George's County	317/159		
Caroline County	293/147			Queen Anne's County	302/151		
Carroll County	278/139			St. Mary's County	319/160		
Cecil County	294/147			Somerset County	303/152		
Charles County	284/142			Talbot County	312/156		
Dorchester County	316/158			Washington County	260/130		
Frederick County	290/145			Wicomico County	291/146		
Garrett County	276/138			Worcester County	373/187		
Harford County	299/150			All-County List	226/---		
Total Tick	7,269/2,400						

* **Yard List Information**:
County: _____
Location: Home: _____ Work: _____ Other? (specify): _____
Brief Description: (size, habitat, etc):

III. ANNUAL ALL-TIME HIGH LISTS (for previous years)

Locality List	Year	#	Locality List	Year	#

(Please use one form per person)

MOS Activities

November-December 2001

Thursday, November 1

MEETING. Frederick. Jean Tuft from the National Wildlife Federation will give a presentation on "Creating Backyard Wildlife Habitats." Meet in the Frederick High School Music Room at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 2

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Horsehead Sanctuary" by Ed Delaney. 8:00 p.m. at the DNR Conference Room, Tawes Building, corner of Taylor Avenue and Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Owls. Meet at 7:00 pm at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Scott Powers, at 410-658-2369.

MEETING. Harford. "Where Have All The Birds Gone?" by Dr. Mark Johnson. Meet at 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-879-0642.

Saturday, November 3

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Garrett County for Waterfowl. Jon Boone will lead this trip to nearby Garrett Co. to view migrating ducks and other waterfowl. We will check Deep Creek Lake, move on to Broadford Lake and then have lunch at Lydia's French Connection. Meet at Johnny's Baithouse along Rt. 219 at 10:00 a.m. or at the Park & Ride at Rt. 36 in Frostburg at 9:00 a.m. to convoy to Johnny's.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Horsehead Sanctuary for waterfowl and ducks up close for Ids. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking lot of the Bay 50 Shopping Center off Rt. 50 at Mikasa. For further information, contact the leader, Kathie Lambert at 410-867-4056.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park. Diverse habitats include a stream, a pond, woods and fields. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact the leader, Jim Meyers, at 410-435-2008.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Looking for waterfowl & sparrows at Piney Run Park but our trip leader isn't making any guarantees. It should still be a good time for all. Meet 12:30 pm at the park's gate on Martz Road, Sykesville. For more info, call trip leader Mark Hoffman at 410-549-3598.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Blackwater Wildlife Refuge for Snow Geese, (and maybe Ross' Goose), Bald Eagles, Brown-headed Nuthatch, other waterfowl and late migrants. Bring your lunch and meet at Urbana Park & Ride South Lot at 6:00 a.m.. Call Helen Horrocks at 301-831-6315 to confirm.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Perryman. Join trip leader Dave Powell in a walk along Perryman area roads looking for migrating sparrows. Fox, Tree and White-Crowned Sparrows are among the target species. Meet at the Aberdeen Wal-Mart parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Call 410-452-5806 for more details.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Kinder Farm Park. This varied habitat should yield an assortment of birds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Rt. 32 and Broken Land Parkway to carpool to AA county. The leader is David Farner. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Eastern Neck NWR for waterfowl - Canada Geese, ducks, swans, and other unexpected "finds"! Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Dollar General Store parking lot at the intersection of Rt. 213 and Spring Avenue, Chestertown. For further information, contact the leader, Howard McIntyre.

FIELD TRIP. Patuxent. Fran Uhler Natural Area. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Fran Uhler Natural Area parking lot at the end of Lemon Bridge Road. For further information, contact Fred Fallon at 301-249-1518.

Sunday, November 4

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk around the lake for a wide variety of land and water birds. Migrant raptors still moving. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot on Centennial Lane. The leader is John Maloney. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday Morning Walk. Wye Island for diversity of habitats and species. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton. For further information, contact the leader, Danny Poet, at 410-827-8651 or by email at dannypoet@hotmail.com.

Tuesday, November 6

MEETING. Baltimore. Show-n-Tell Night. Bring your beautiful, interesting or unusual slides of local or exotic birds and share them with members and friends of the BBC. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

Wednesday, November 7

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. First Wednesdays at Ft. McHenry. Our monthly visit to assist Jim Peters in the National Aquarium's project of surveying bird activity around a 10-acre man-made (mitigated) wetland. Folding chair and telescope useful. Cancelled in bad weather (high winds, fog, rain). Meet 9:30 a.m. at Fort McHenry. From the entrance, the wetlands are to the right. Meet just past the statue of Orpheus. Coordinators Gail Frantz 410-833-7135, guineabird@aol.com, and Catherine Bishop, 410-435-9569.

MEETING. Carroll. Program titled "England, Scotland & Wales". 7:30 pm at Carroll Community College Annex, 300 S. Center St., Westminster. For more info, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Thursday, November 8

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Lake Elkhorn. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Broken Land Parkway lot to walk around the lake on paved path to view waterfowl and woodland birds. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Howard. "What a Wonderful Bird is the Pelican: Brown Pelicans in Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay" by David Brinker. Programs are held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Drive, Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/ Program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Don Waugh at 410-381-8841.

MEETING. Montgomery. "River of Raptors: Veracruz, Mexico" by Don Simonson, Montgomery County Chapter, MOS. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD.

MEETING. Talbot. "Restoring Habitat For Grassland Birds: Studies At Chino Farms, The New Chester River Field Research Center" by Dr. Douglas Gill, University of Maryland College Park. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at SunTrust Bank Maryland Room (basement meeting room), Goldsborough and Harrison Streets, Easton.

Friday, November 9

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Saw-whet Owl Banding Station. Visit the banding station at South Mountain, MD to see Saw-whet Owl banding by Steve Huy. Meet at 9:00 p.m. at Rt. 80 Park & Ride (off Rt. 270). Limited to 15 people. Rain date is November 10. For reservations and more information, contact the leader, Gemma Radko, at 301-607-4374.

Saturday-Monday, November 10-12

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Waterfowl Festival Display and Morning Walks. Contact the coordinators, Jan Reese at 410-745-2875 or Austin Farley at 410-822-7871 or by email at austin631@hotmail.com), for more details.

Saturday, November 10

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Lower Patuxent River in Charles County. Take a boat trip with Greg Kearns looking for ducks and loons. Meet 7:00 a.m. at the Parole Park & Ride lot located off Harry Truman Parkway. For further information, contact the leader, Paul Speyser, at 410-266-5669.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Horsehead Wetlands Sanctuary. Half-day trip to see wild ducks, captive breeding birds and birds of prey in rehabilitation area. Walk trails and boardwalk over the marsh. Observation towers overlook east side of Kent Island. Easy walking. Telescopes useful. Entrance fee waived for BBC members. Option to meet there 8:00 a.m. or at 7:00 a.m. at the Nursery Rd.- Hammonds Ferry Rd. Park & Ride at Beltway exit 8. For further information, contact the coordinator, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217 or email: pwebb@bcpl.net.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Audrey Carroll Cleanup. Help with chores and squeeze in some birding too. Bring heavy gloves and binoculars and meet at the sanctuary at 7:30 AM. Contact David Smith at 410-549-7082 for information.

FIELD TRIP. Patuxent. Point Lookout, St Mary's Co., for late migrants; winter sparrows and sea ducks. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Bowie Park & Ride. Optional lunch at Sandgates, home of "Kelpie", on return. For further information, contact the leader, Tom Beal, at 301-805-1549.

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MOS Calendar

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Sunday, November 11

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Waterfowl Trip. Marvel at the thousands of Lesser Scaup on the Gunpowder River, and search among them for the occasional Redhead, Long-tailed Duck (A.K.A. Oldsquaw) and scoters. Then visit Havre de Grace for a wide variety of waterfowl including American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler and Tundra Swan. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the MD Route 24 gate to the Edgewood Area of the Aberdeen Proving Ground. Scopes are helpful, although not necessary. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Webb, at 410-939-3537.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk around the lake for a wide variety of water and woodland birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Darius Ecker. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Tri-County. Truitt's Landing and Vaughn WMA. Prime time for late passerine migrants, raptors and wintering sparrows. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the north parking lot of the Asbury Methodist Church in Salisbury. For further information, contact the leader, Alan Deward, at 410-352-5590.

Thursday, November 15

MEETING. Caroline. "Beautiful But Rare Drepanids of Hawaii" presented by Dr. Robert Trever. 7:30 p.m. at the Choptank Electric Cooperative, Denton.

Saturday, November 17

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park. Diverse habitats include a stream, a pond, woods and fields. Expect to see a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact the leader, Jim Meyers, at 410-435-2008.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Blackwater NWR. All-day trip to see ducks, thousands of Canada and Snow Geese, and possible Bald Eagle or Brown-headed Nuthatch. Meet at the refuge Visitors Center. Birding mostly from cars, one short level walk. Telescopes useful. Meet 9:30 a.m. at visitor center. For further information, contact the leader, Taylor McLean, at 410-377-7622.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Bird walk at Hashawa to see what we can find as our wintering birds may be coming in. Meet 8:00 am at Bear Branch Nature Center parking lot, Westminster. For more info, contact trip leader Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Avalon Seawatch.(w/ possible side trip to Cape May Hawk Watch) Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Cecil Community Collage Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leaders, Leslie Fisher, at 410-658-2427 or Marcia Whitmyre, at 410-398-0125.

FIELD TRIP. Patuxent. Lake Artemesia. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Lake Artemesia parking lot. For further information, contact Fred Fallon at 301-249-1518.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. A trip to Black Hills in Montgomery County for ducks. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Rt. 66 Park & Ride. Contact trip leader Bob Keedy at 301-733-7708 for more information.

Sunday, November 18

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eastern Neck NWR. Leaders Jean and Larry Fry will guide you through this all-day trek to this wildlife refuge in Kent County. Eastern Neck provides fantastic opportunities to see waterfowl, with Horned Grebe, Tundra Swans, and Canvasback all likely to be encountered. Be sure to dress warmly and scopes could be useful. Jean and Larry can be contacted at 410-452-8539 and plan to leave from the I-95 exit 89 Park & Ride (on MD Route 155) at 7:00 a.m.. Bring lunch: all day trip with easy walking.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk the paved path around the lake to look for migrating waterfowl. Very small possibility of Oldsquaw. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Mike Kerwin. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lilypons - New Design Road. Wintering field birds, targeting Fox and Tree Sparrows and possible Loggerhead Shrike. Will include stop at Black Hill Reservoir, if conditions look good for waterbirds. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Gail MacKiernan, at 301-989-1828.

FIELD TRIP. Patuxent. Local birding spots. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Wild Bird Center on Old Bowie Road. For further information, contact the Wild Bird Center at 301-805-4858.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday Morning Walk at Cambridge waterfront for ducks and geese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton. For further information, contact the leader, Shirley Bailey, at 410-943-8925.

Monday, November 19

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Wilde Lake. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the boat dock to walk along the lake and through woodlands in search of winter birds and waterfowl. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Tuesday, November 20

MEETING. Kent. "Chesapeake Bay Waterfowl - Status and Trends" by Doug Forsell or DNR. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Public Library, Chestertown. For further information, contact Pat Wilson, at 410-778-1005.

Saturday, November 24

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sandy Point State Park for a variety of fall and wintering birds. Half day. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot of the Bay 50 Shopping Center off Rt. 50 at Mikasa. For further information, contact the leader, Hal Wierenga, at 410-647-7439.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Eagle Watch - Conowingo Dam. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Fisherman's Park. For further information, contact the leaders, Charlie Gant, at 410-398-3554 or Sean McCandless, at 410-392-3407.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam. Conowingo is one of the best locations for mid-Atlantic birding at this time of year. The dam hosts dozens of Bald Eagles and thousands of gulls. Other possible sightings include Golden Eagle, Black-crowned Night-Heron and Pileated Woodpecker. Scopes are helpful. Meet trip leader Dave Larkin (410-569-8319) at 8:00 a.m. at the pavilion at the north end of Fisherman's Park, which is located at the end of Shures Landing Road.

Sunday, November 25

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Looking for migrant waterfowl and any lingering odenates. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Richard Orr. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday Morning Walk. Tilghman Island for winter residents. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank. For further information, contact the leader, Jan Reese, at 410-745-2875.

Monday, November 26

MEETING. Tri-County. "Brood Parasitism" by Ellen Lawler. Meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Fox Room of the Asbury Methodist Church in Salisbury. For further information, contact Sam Dyke at 410-742-5497.

Tuesday, November 27

MEETING. Washington. Members' Night. This year there will be a round-table discussion on "How to Attract Birds to Your Backyard" moderated by Janet Shields. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Nature Center of the Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center located just off I70 on the East side of Hagerstown. For directions and further information contact Janet Shields at 301-416-7109.

Wednesday, November 28

MEETING. Cecil. The speaker will be Greg Futral from the Baltimore Bird Club with a presentation called "The Usual Suspects and More," a diverse and humorous bird slide show he has put together. Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Elkton High School library. For further information, contact Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2428.

Saturday, December 1

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Southern Maryland. All-day trip to Point Lookout and other locations. Scoters, Oldsquaw, Great Cormorants, Bald Eagles, Brown-headed Nuthatches, and Gannets possible. Birding near cars with minimal walking. Telescopes useful. Bring Lunch. Trip may not go if weather judged unfavorable. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Sanford, at 410-922-5103 or email: tanager@bcpl.net.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Black Hill Regional Park for waterfowl and winter birds. Meet at Urbana Park & Ride South Lot at 7:30 a.m.. Call Doug or Nancy Parker at 301-663-1909 for information.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Susquehanna River Prowl. All-morning tour from both shores of the Susquehanna River, led by Les Eastman. Target birds will include loons, diving ducks, mergansers, gulls and eagles. Some walking on mostly flat terrain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Tydings Marina

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MOS Calendar

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in Havre de Grace. For further information, contact Les Eastman at 410-734-6969.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Blackwater NWR. All day at this eastern shore refuge to look at waterfowl extravaganza. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Rt. 32 and Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride. Plan to bring a lunch, dress very warmly and bring scope. For further information, contact the leader, Stan Arnold, at 410-768-0155.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Black Hill Regional Park. All are welcome and particularly new birders. We'll concentrate on identifying wintering water birds at excellent local lake and look at landbirds too. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Sally Ann Waldschmidt, at 301 460-5841.

Sunday, December 2

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Kent Island in Queen Anne's County. Small parks, shore and ponds for over-winterers. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot of the Bay 50 Shopping Center off Rt. 50 at Mikasa. For further information, contact the leader, Larry Zoller, at 410-647-9354.

Monday, December 3Tuesday, December 4

MEETING. Baltimore. "2001, A Birdwatching Odyssey: Highlights of a half a dozen places visited in 2001" by Hank Kaestner. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

Wednesday, December 5

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. First Wednesdays at Ft. McHenry. Our monthly visit to assist Jim Peters in the National Aquarium's project of surveying bird activity around a 10-acre man-made (mitigated) wetland. Folding chair and telescope useful. Cancelled in bad weather (high winds, fog, rain). Meet 9:30 a.m. at Fort McHenry. From the entrance, the wetlands are to the right. Meet just past the statue of Orpheus. Coordinators Gail Frantz 410-833-7135, guineabird@aol.com, and Catherine Bishop, 410-435-9569.

MEETING. Carroll. Program titled "Northeastern Australia". 7:30 pm at Carroll Community College Annex, 300 S. Center St., Westminster. For more info, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Thursday, December 6

MEETING. Frederick. Chan Robbins will give a PowerPoint presentation on "What have I learned from 100,000 net-hours of backyard banding" at our Christmas Dinner and Meeting at the DanDee Restaurant on Rt. 40W at 6:00 p.m.. Please make reservations with and send money to President Doug Parker or Treasurer Nancy Parker before 11/25/01.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Backroads Of Montgomery County. Explore little known back roads of our county in search of wintering birds of hedge, field and copse. Lunch at up-county restaurant. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Rich Bray, at 301 652-0387.

Friday, December 7

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Costa Rica 2K" by Darius Ecker. 8:00 p.m. at the DNR Conference Room, Tawes Building, corner of Taylor Avenue and Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis.

Saturday, December 8

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Winter Wren Foray. Meet at Spring Gap on the C&O Canal at 7:30 a.m.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Ft. McHenry Clean-up. General public invited to help restore this mitigated (man-made) marsh by removing debris and planting native vegetation. Rain or shine. Register in advance with the Aquarium volunteer office, 410-576-3886. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Fort McHenry just past the statue of Orpheus. Bring Lunch, all-day trip.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. A day trip birding on Kent Island & Horseheads Wetlands Center. Don't forget to bring a lunch. Meet 7:00 am at the Park & Ride, Rt. 32 & I-70. For more info, call trip leader Bob Ringler at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Loch Raven Reservoir. A morning tour of Baltimore City's most beautiful property in search for pine-loving passerines and waterfowl. Likely to be seen are Red-breasted Nuthatches, Ring-necked Duck, and maybe even a Pine Warbler. Meet leader Donald Soubie at the MD Route 152 Park & Ride (MD Route 147 is closest cross street) at 7:30 a.m..

FIELD TRIP. Patuxent. Terrapin Beach Park (Kent Island) & selected area sites per hot-line reports. Possible Longspurs, Short-eared Owl. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Bowie Park & Ride. For further information, contact Fred Fallon at 301-249-1518.

Sunday, December 9

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Eastern Neck NWR & Remington Farms. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Big Elk Mall Dunkin Doughnuts Parking Lot Area. For further information, contact the leader, Sean McCandless, at 410-392-3407.

Thursday, December 13

MEETING. Howard. "2001: A Birdwatching Odyssey," by Hank Kaestner. Programs are held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Drive, Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/Program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Don Waugh at 410-381-8841.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Hummingbirds: The Birds Who Kiss Flowers" by Ross Hawkins, Hummingbird Society of America. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD.

Saturday, December 15

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Holly Beach Farm, Northup Grumman site for waterfowl on the bay and land birds. Half day. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot of the Bay 50 Shopping Center off Rt. 50 at Mikasa. For further information, contact the leader, Al Haury at 410-923-0881.

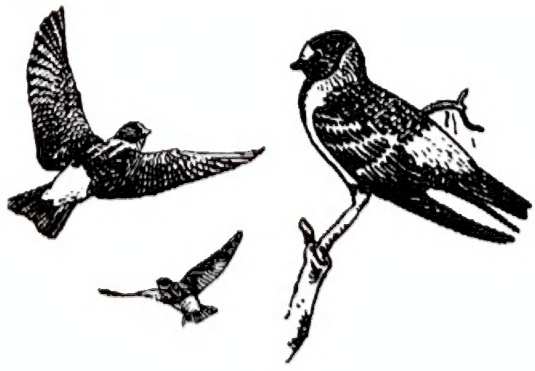
FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC. Easier to reach and more attractive than you think! Meet at 8:00 a.m. at main parking lot. Directions - Take first exit from Kenilworth Ave. southbound from junction with Rte. 50. Go three blocks and turn right on Douglas, go to end of Douglas and turn right - the Gardens are about 1/2 block on the right. No entrance fee. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Mike Bowen, at 301 530-5764.

Sunday, December 16

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Black Hills. Join Phil Powers on a full day trip to Black Hills Lake in Montgomery County. The lake is a wonderful place to spot waterfowl, loons and grebes. The surrounding parkland also hosts Red-headed Woodpeckers, Tree Sparrows and other winter birds. Meeting time is 7:00 a.m. at the I-95/MD 152 park and ride. Phil Powers can be reached at 410-679-4116 for further information. Scopes would be helpful.

Tuesday, December 18

MEETING. Kent. "Owls of North America" by Dave Brinker. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Public Library, Chestertown. For further information, contact Pat Wilson, at 410-778-1005.



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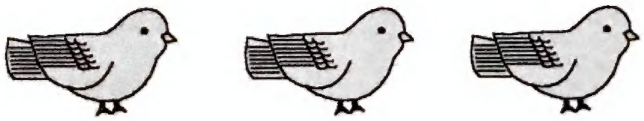

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The copy deadline for the Jan/Feb issue of the Yellowthroat is November 25 for chapter activities and December 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for January and February to:

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Please send all other submissions to the editor:

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